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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 744
By Newton

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ms. Dura Montgomery
for receiving the Tennessee's Distinguished
Education Employees Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their professional efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dura Montgomery, who teaches speech and drama to ninth and tenth graders at Copper Basin High School; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery has been selected as a recipient of the Tennessee Education Association Distinguished Education Employees Award; and

WHEREAS, she has also been selected as one out of six Outstanding Distinguished Classroom Teachers across the entire state; and

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WHEREAS, in competition for this distinguished award, Ms. Montgomery submitted a four-page application, a one-page essay based on her philosophy of teaching, and three letters of recommendation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery was selected from a distinguished panel composed of previous recipients of the award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery has lent her skills and talent to the teaching profession for the past twenty-three years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery was honored in a formal ceremony on April 28th, 2000, and took a tour of the Tennessee Book Company, which is headquartered in La Verge; and

WHEREAS, her award includes a \$100 gift certificate to the Tennessee Book Company, and a medallion which may be displayed on one's desk in a box; and

WHEREAS, a 1963 graduate of Tennessee Wesleyan College, Ms. Montgomery gained certification in Elementary Education and High School English; she earned her master's degree from Tusculum College and later received an Education Specialist degree from Lincoln Memorial University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery is also a devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Copperhill where she lifts her voice in praise as a member of the church choir; she has also served for several years as the Chairperson of the Administrative Council, along with having served on various other committees; she is a certified Lay Speaker of her church and jokingly refers to herself as a "frustrated actress" on talent night at her church; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Montgomery is greatly appreciative of the love and encouragement that she receives from her children, Mitch and wife Lisa, Gretchen and husband Emilio, Scott and wife Juli, Gabriel and wife Ginger, and from her wonderful grandchildren, Chelsea, Paul, Casandra, and Joshua; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate in its deliberations to recognize Mrs. Montgomery for her many accomplishments, having greatly enhanced Tennessee's Educational System; now, therefore,

0 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we congratulate Ms. Dura Montgomery on being selected for the Tennessee Education Association Distinguished Education Employees Award, and extend to her our very best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.